

4.0 PUBLIC COORDINATION

4.1 Public Participation and Scoping

The public participation program for the Cortez Hills Expansion Project EIS includes an open forum for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in the assessment.

The BLM initiated the scoping process by publishing a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register (FR) on December 2, 2005 (FR Volume 70, Number 231). Public scoping meetings for the EIS were held in Crescent Valley and Battle Mountain, Nevada, on December 19 and 20, 2005, respectively. The comments received during the scoping process were considered in developing this EIS.

The scope of the EIS reflects input received from the public and from appropriate government agencies. The scoping comments were summarized and included in the preliminary EIS Preparation Plan. The following are the key scoping issues identified for the proposed project.

- Potential air quality impacts from fugitive dust and mercury emissions
- Potential visual impacts associated with mine expansion
- Potential vibration-related impacts to culturally and spiritually important areas as a result of blasting
- Potential short-term and long-term impacts to groundwater and surface water quality
- Potential impacts to groundwater and surface water from pit dewatering and mercury emissions
- Potential impacts to water quality from acid-generating waste rock
- Post-closure pit water quality
- Regional impacts to groundwater from drawdown
- Potential for pit lake aquatic community development and associated potential impacts for fisheries and vegetation
- Potential impacts to native vegetation and soil productivity as a result of project development and reclamation
- Potential impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat from land clearing, mine operations, conveyor and power line installation, noise, and a potential hazardous materials spill
- The need for an ecological risk assessment

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- Potential short-term and long-term livestock grazing impacts
- Potential noise impacts from mine operations
- Potential transportation impacts associated with off site transport of ore and mine access traffic safety
- Access to, and protection of, cultural and spiritual sites
- Potential social and economic impacts
- Potential cumulative impacts

4.2 List of Contacts

While preparing the EIS for the proposed Cortez Hills Expansion Project, the BLM communicated with, and received input from, various federal, state, and local agencies and private organizations. The following sections list these contacts.

4.2.1 Federal Agencies

Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

4.2.2 State Agencies

Nevada Bureau of Air Pollution Control
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Nevada Department of Transportation
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Nevada Division of State Lands
Nevada Natural Heritage Program
State Historic Preservation Officer

4.2.3 Local Agencies

Lander County Clerk
Lander County Road and Bridge Department
Eureka County Assessor

4.2.4 Tribal Organizations

Battle Mountain Band
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
Duck Valley Shoshone – Paiute Tribe
Duckwater Shoshone
Elko Band
Ely Shoshone
South Fork Band
Te-Moak Tribe
Timbisha Tribe
Wells Band
Western Shoshone Committee of Duck Valley
Yomba Shoshone

4.2.5 Other Organizations

Great Basin Mine Watch
Western Shoshone Defense Project
Western Watershed Project

4.3 List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies of this Statement are Sent**4.3.1 Federal Agencies**

Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office
Bureau of Land Management, Elko Field Office
Bureau of Land Management, Ely Field Office
Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office
Bureau of Land Management, Pocatello Field Office
Bureau of Land Management, Tonopah Field Station
Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca Field Office
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Reno, Nevada
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento, California
U.S. Department of the Interior, OEPC
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco, California
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno, Nevada
U.S. Forest Service, Austin Ranger District
U.S. Forest Service, Tonopah Ranger District

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4.3.2 State Agencies

Nevada State Clearinghouse/SPOC, Dept of Administration
Nevada Department of Agriculture
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of State Lands
Nevada Department of Minerals
Nevada Department of Transportation
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Elko, Nevada
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Las Vegas, Nevada
Nevada Department of Wildlife, Reno, Nevada
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
Nevada Division of Forestry

4.3.3 Elected Officials

John Ensign, U.S. Senator
Pete Goicoechea, Assemblyman
Kenneth Guinn, Governor
John Marvel, Assemblyman
Harry Reid, U.S. Senator
Dean A. Rhoads, State Senator
Dina Titus, State Senator

4.3.4 County and Local Agencies

Eureka County Commissioners
Elko County Commissioners
Esmeralda County Commission
Eureka County Natural Resources Department
Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
Humboldt River Basin Water Authority
Lander County Commissioners, Battle Mountain
Lander County Public Land Use Advisory Commission
Lander Economic Development Authority
Nye County Department of Natural Resources

4.3.5 Tribal Organizations

Battle Mountain Band Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Nevada Agency
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Elko Band Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone
Ely Shoshone Tribe

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley
South Fork Band Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone
Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
Wells Band Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone
Yomba Shoshone Tribe

4.3.6 Newspapers and Libraries

Battle Mountain Bugle
Elko Daily Free Press
Humboldt Sun

4.3.7 Organizations

Beatty Historical Museum Society
Commission for Preservation of Wild Horses
Committee for the High Desert
Earth Knowledge
EarthWorks
Eureka Sentinel Museum
Great Basin Mine Watch
MOSO RAC
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nevada Cattlemen's Association
Nevada Trappers Association
Railroad Symposium
Sierra Club
Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter
The Fund for Animals
Western Action Mining Project
Western Shoshone Defense Project
Western Watersheds Project
WHOA
Wild Horse Preservation League
Wild Horse Wildness and Wildlife

4.3.8 Industry/Business

Barrick Gold Corporation
Beatty Cattle Company LLC
Becker Realty
C Ranches Inc.
Carter Cattle Company

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Chiara Ranch
Cortez Gold Mines
Cortez Joint Venture DBA Dean Ranch
Geothermal Associates
Hecla Ventures Corporation
JBR Environmental Consultants
Julian Tomera Ranches, Inc.
Kuipers and Associates
Nevada Land and Resource Company
Nevada Mining Association
Permits West Inc.
Resource Concepts Inc.
Romarco Minerals Inc.
Round Mountain Gold Corporation
Sansinena Ranch
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Summa Minerals
Toiyabe Exploration Inc.
Truckee River Ranch
Twin Springs Ranch
Vogue Linen Supply

4.3.9 Individuals

Leon Abrams	Malloy Foster
Gary Adams	Aaron Foxworthy
Donna Bailey	Chris Fuller
Marriah Banghart	Theresa Gaiato
Clay Baty	Dawn Gann
Clinton and Ellen Boehringer	Donna Grill
Madaya and Shayne Burdine	Carl and Carole Hanks
Edward Burger	Ritonda Harding
Paul Burkett	Cynthia Harris
Rex Cleary	Rich Harrison
Roy Clifford	Tuesday Henderson
Joe Dahl	Jerry Hepworth
Ronald Damele	Bud Johns
Bruce Delaney	Rod Johnson
Al Drayton	Tara Johnson
Barbara and Ken Dugan	L.A. Jones
Eden	Bill and Peggy Kirkpatrick
Leroy Etchegaray	Lee Koch
John and Ginger Fareio	Bill Kohlmoos
Julie Fishel	Brian Krueger

John Lemke
Frank Lewis
Herman Lindermann
Ruby Lingelbach
John Livermore
J. Locke
Sara Locke
Robert Long
Nancy Loudon
Corey Lucero
Lowell Lynte
Dorene McClure
Suzy McCoy
Norman McKittrick
Richard Medley
Gale Mehrer
Diane Mihal
William Miller
John Minoletti
Sheldon Morrison
Marion Murphy
Jason New
Henry Nye
Eric Oakes
Royal Orser
Adell and Norman Panning
Durk Pearson
Elaine Peterson
Earl Phillips
Bruce Piscitello
David Plummer
Kenneth Reim
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Joe Rodriguez
Bret Rosecrans
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Sam Sandoval
Mike Sansinena
Jay Scott
Sandy Shaw
Norman Sharp
Diane Shelley
Wanda Shufilin

Mark Simpson
Stanley Smith
Gordon Sobering
Randy Spevak
Kevin Stills
Jason Sutherland
Beth Swartz
Bill Templeton
JoAnne Thomas
Vernon Thompson
Fidel Velqsquez
Jose Vasquez
Ronie Waddell
Ed and Miriam Ylst

5.0 LIST OF PREPARERS AND REVIEWERS

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5.1 Bureau of Land Management EIS Team		
Responsibility	Name	Degree(s) and Experience
NEPA Coordinator, Environmental Justice	Chris Worthington (BMFO)	BS Forestry 23 years experience
	Angelica Ordaz (BMFO)	BS Environmental Studies 6 years experience
Minerals, Geology, 3809 Lead, Hazardous Materials and Solid Waste	Stephen Drummond (BMFO)	BS Mining Engineering 26 years experience
Realty, Lands and Rights-of-Way	Charles Lane (BMFO)	MS, BS Geology 31 years experience
Fire Management	Lisa Walker (BMFO)	Associate Science 15 years experience
Air Quality	Robert Boyd (NSO)	BS Geophysics 19 years experience
Water Quality and Quantity	Jon Sherve (BMFO)	MS Hydrology/Hydrogeology BA Biological Sciences 14 years experience
	Tom Olsen (NSO)	PhD Geology Engineering MS, BS Geology 26 years experience
Cultural Resources, Paleontology	Paula Sutton (BMFO)	MA Public Service Archaeology BA Anthropology 20 years experience
Native American Coordination	Gerald Dixon (Elko FO and BMFO)	BS Cultural Anthropology 12 years experience
Socioeconomics	Tom Crawford (CCFO)	MS/BS Environmental and Natural Resource Economics 32 years experience
Forestry, Soils, Noxious Weeds	Joe Ratliff (BMFO)	MS Water Management BS Forestry 15 years experience
Range Resources, Vegetation	Michele McDaniel (BMFO)	BS Natural Resource Management 5 years experience
Migratory Birds, Special Status Species	Mike Stamm (BMFO)	BS Zoology 28 years experience
Wildlife, Riparian and Wetlands	Duane Crimmins (BMFO)	BS Wildlife Biology 30 years experience
Ecological Risk	Cris Ross (NSO)	PhD Ecology 13 years experience
Visual Resources	Robert Perrin (BMFO)	BS Economics 10 years experience
Administrative Support	Leesa Marine (BMFO)	2 years experience
	Claudette Ramos (BMFO)	Bachelor of Applied Science Management Technology 2 years experience
GIS	Kathy Graham (BMFO)	BS Wildlife Management Biology 20 years experience
Fuels Management	Chad Lewis (BMFO)	BS Forestry 14 years experience
Cooperating Agency – Nevada Department of Wildlife		
	Name	Degree(s) and Experience
	Rory Lamp	BS Zoology 27 years experience

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5.2 ENSR EIS Team (Third-party Consultant)		
Responsibility	Name	Degree(s) and Experience
Project Manager, NEPA Compliance	Valerie Randall ENSR	BA Urban Studies 29 years experience
Assistant Project Manager and NEPA Document Coordinator	Dolora Koontz ENSR	BA Biology 18 years experience
Surface Water, Soils, Reclamation	James Burrell ENSR	MS Civil Engineering BS Forest Management 31 years experience
Geology, Groundwater	Patrick Plumley Plumley & Associates	MS Geology BS Geology 22 years experience
Geochemistry	James Drever University of Wyoming	PhD Geochemistry MA Chemistry BA Chemistry 39 years experience
Hazardous Materials and Solid Waste	William Berg ENSR	MS Geology BS Geology 26 years experience
Air Quality	Vince Scheetz ENSR	MS Systems Management BS Mathematics 37 years experience
Vegetation, Special Status Plant Species, Range Resources, Wetlands	Jon Alstad ENSR	MS Range Science BS Animal Science 22 years experience
Wildlife and Special Status Species	Charles Johnson ENSR	MS Biology BS Wildlife Biology 15 years experience
Cultural Resources, Native American Consultation, Paleontology, and Environmental Justice	Kim Munson ENSR	MA Anthropology BA Anthropology 13 years experience
Socioeconomics, Land Use and Access, Recreation and Wilderness, Visual Resources, and Noise	Bernie Strom ENSR	MCRP City and Regional Planning BS Urban Planning 32 years experience
Document Production	Debbie Thompson ENSR	3 years General Education 23 years experience
Graphics Preparation	Scott MacKinnon ENSR	BS Physical Geography 4 years experience
5.3 Cortez Gold Mines Reviewers		
Name	Title and Company	
Steve Schoen	Cortez Lead, Cortez Gold Mines	
George Fennemore	Cortez Assistant Lead, Cortez Gold Mines	
Jim Butler	Attorney, Parsons Behle & Latimer	
Connie Rogers	Attorney, Davis Graham & Stubbs	

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Acre-feet	The volume of water required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot; equivalent to a volume of 43,560 cubic feet.
Adverse Effect (under the National Historic Preservation Act)	An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association.
Allotment	A unit of land suitable and available for livestock grazing that is managed as one grazing unit.
Alluvial	Pertaining to material or processes associated with transportation or deposition of soil and rock by flowing water (e.g., streams and rivers).
Alluvium	Unconsolidated or poorly consolidated gravel, sands, and clays deposited by streams and rivers on riverbeds, floodplains, and alluvial fans.
Ambient	The environment as it exists at the point of measurement and against which changes or impacts are measured.
Ambient Noise	Total, all-encompassing noise associated with a given environment and time.
American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978	Act establishing national policy to protect and preserve for Native Americans their inherent right of freedom to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions, including the rights of access to religious sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and freedom to worship through traditional ceremonies and rites.
Animal Unit Months	Grazing of a cow/calf, sheep/lamb, or other animal pair for 1 month.
Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA)	A federal law, passed in 1979 to protect archaeological resources on public and Indian lands.
Area of Potential Effects (APE)	Defined in Section 106 regulations as the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.
Aquifer	A body of rock that is sufficiently permeable to conduct groundwater and to yield economically significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

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Background Noise	Noise from all sources other than that from a particular source of interest (e.g., other than mining noise if mining noise were being investigated).
Barren Solution	In a metallurgical process, the solution left after the mineral value has been removed.
Bedrock	Any solid rock exposed at the surface or overlain by unconsolidated material.
BLM Sensitive Species	Previous Category 2 (C2) candidate species.
Code of Federal Regulations	The compilation of federal regulations adopted by federal agencies through a rule-making process.
Carrying Capacity	The maximum population of an animal that an ecosystem can support without being degraded.
Community Noise Equivalent Level	L_{eq} for a 24-hour, midnight to midnight period with 5 dBA added to the sound levels from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and 10 dBA added to the sound levels between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
Cone of Depression	The depression of groundwater levels around a pumping well caused by the withdrawal of water.
Confining Bed	A layer of rock having very low hydraulic conductivity that hampers the movement of water into and out of an aquifer.
Critical Habitat	Habitat that is present in minimum amounts and is the determining factor in the potential for population maintenance and growth.
Cultural Resources	Archaeological sites, architectural structures or features, traditional use areas, and Native American sacred sites or special use areas.
Cumulative Effects	The combined environmental impacts that accrue over time and space from a series of similar or related individual actions, contaminants, or projects. Although each action may seem to have a negligible impact, the combined effect can be significant. Included are activities of the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future; synonymous with cumulative impacts.
Decibel (dB)	A unit used in expressing ratios of electric or acoustic power; the relative loudness of sound.

Decibel, A-weighting (dBA)	The most commonly used frequency weighting measure; simulates human sound perception and correlates well with human perception of the annoying aspects of noise.
Direct Impacts (under the National Environmental Policy Act)	Impacts that are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1508.7); synonymous with direct effects.
Discharge	The volume of water flowing past a point per unit time, commonly expressed as cubic feet per second, gallons per minute, or million gallons per day.
Disturbed Area	An area where natural vegetation and soils have been removed.
Dolomite	A mineral, calcium magnesium carbonate ($\text{CaMg}[\text{CO}_3]_2$), or a rock composed largely of dolomite.
Drainage	The natural channel through which water flows some time of the year; natural and artificial means for affecting discharge of water as by a system of surface and subsurface passages.
Drawdown	The lowering of the water level in a well as a result of withdrawal; the reduction in groundwater level at a point caused by the withdrawal of water from an aquifer.
Effect (under the National Historic Preservation Act)	An effect on one of the characteristics that may make a historic property eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
Effective Perceived Noise Level	Measurements consisting of a frequency weighting scheme considerably more complicated than the A-weighting filter used to determine sound exposure levels (SELs). They incorporate a penalty for the presence of pure tones to account for people's increased annoyance with single frequencies, such as the tones emanating from the compressor of turbofan engines. Thus, although specific values must be determined by computer analysis of a signal, effective perceived noise levels have been adopted for certain specialized uses involving the noise of individual aircraft over-flights.
Endangered Species	Any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.
Ephemeral Stream	A stream or portion of a stream that flows briefly in direct response to precipitation in the immediate vicinity and whose channel is at all times above the water table.

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Erosion	The wearing away of soil and rock by weathering, mass wasting, and the action of streams, glaciers, waves, wind, and groundwater.
Executive Order 11593 of 1971, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment	Requires federal agencies to survey properties under their jurisdiction and nominate appropriate candidates to the National Register of Historic Places.
Executive Order 13287 of 2003, Preserve America	Initiative affirming the federal government's leadership role in protecting historic properties. Among the goals of Preserve America are to promote partnerships for the use and rehabilitation of historic properties, and to assist in developing heritage tourism opportunities.
Exploration	The search for economic deposits of minerals, ore, and other materials through practices of geology, geochemistry, geophysics, drilling, and/or mapping.
Fault	A fracture in rock units along which there has been displacement.
Flocculant	A reagent added to water to aggregate minute suspended particles so that they may precipitate out of suspension.
Floodplain	That portion of a river valley, adjacent to the channel, that is built of sediments deposited during the present regimen of the stream and that is covered with water when the river overflows its banks at flood stages.
Fugitive Dust	Dust particles suspended randomly in the air from various sources including road travel, excavation, and rock loading operations.
Geochemistry	The study of the distribution and amounts of the chemical elements in minerals, ores, rocks, soils, water, and the atmosphere, and their circulation in nature on the basis of the properties of their atoms and ions.
Geotechnical	A branch of engineering concerned with the engineering design aspects of slope stability, settlement, earth pressures, bearing capacity, seepage control, and erosion.
Groundwater Recovery	An increase in groundwater levels such that the groundwater elevations rise above initial baseline groundwater elevations. Used to refer to an increase in water levels following drawdown.
Groundwater Table	The surface between the zone of saturation and the zone of aeration; that surface of a body of unconfined groundwater at which the pressure is equal to that of the atmosphere.

Habitat	A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.
Heap Leaching	The process of recovering gold and other metals from low-grade ores by leaching ore that has been mined and placed on a specially prepared pad. A chemical solution is applied through low volume emitters, and the metal-bearing leachate solution percolates and is collected.
Historic Property	Defined by the National Historic Preservation Act as any property included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
Hydraulic Conductivity	The capacity of a rock to transmit water. It is expressed as the volume of water at the existing kinematic viscosity that will move in unit time under a unit hydraulic gradient through a unit area measured at right angles to the direction of flow.
Hydrostratigraphic Unit	Grouping of stratified, mainly sedimentary rocks that have similar hydrologic properties.
Impact	A modification in the status of the environment brought about by the proposed action or an alternative.
Indian Sacred Sites	Defined in Executive Order 13007 as “any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on Federal land that is identified by an Indian tribe, or individual determined to be an appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; provided that the tribe or appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion has informed the agency of the existence of such a site.”
Indirect Impacts (under the National Environmental Policy Act)	Impacts that are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1508.8); synonymous with indirect effects.
Infiltration	The movement of water or some other liquid into the soil or rock through pores or other openings.
Irretrievable	Applies primarily to the lost production of renewable natural resources during the life of the project.
Irreversible	Applies primarily to the use of nonrenewable resources, such as minerals, cultural resources, wetlands, or to those factors that are renewable only

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	over long time spans, such as soil productivity. Irreversible also includes loss of future options.
Jurisdictional Wetland	A wetland area identified and delineated by specific technical criteria, field indicators, and other information for purposes of public agency jurisdiction. The public agencies that administer jurisdictional wetlands are the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service.
Key Observation Point	“One or a series of points on a travel route or at a use area or a potential use area, where the view of a management activity would be most revealing” (BLM 1986c). KOPs are commonly selected to represent the most sensitive viewpoints for a proposed management activity based on the number of people who would experience them or the frequency and duration of viewing.
L_d	Day average sound level. L_{eq} for the daytime period from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
L_{dn}	Day-night average sound level. L_{eq} for a 24-hour, midnight to midnight period with 10 dBA added to the sound levels from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
Leachate	A solution obtained by leaching as in downward percolation of water through soil or waste.
L_{eq}	Equivalent continuous sound level. Level of steady state sound that, in a specific time period, has an equal amount of sound energy as the actual time-varying sound.
L_{max}	Maximum sound level. The greatest sound level measured on a sound level meter during a designated time interval or event, using “fast” time averaging on the meter.
L_n	Night average sound level. L_{eq} for the nighttime period from midnight to 7:00 a.m. and from 10:00 p.m. to midnight.
L_p or Sound Pressure Level	A measure of the change in atmospheric pressure induced by sound; depends not only on the power of the sound source, but also on the distance from the source and on the acoustical characteristics of the space surrounding the source. In decibels, 20 times the logarithm (base 10) of the ratio of a sound pressure to the reference sound pressure of 20 micropascals.

L_{pk}	Peak sound level: Maximum instantaneous sound level during a specified time interval or event.
L_W	Sound Power Level: A measure of the acoustic energy output of a sound source. In decibels, 10 times the logarithm (base 10) of the ratio of a given power to the reference power of 1 picowatt.
L_1	Sound level exceeded 1 percent of the time during a given period.
L_{10}	Sound level exceeded 10 percent of the time during a given period; often represents a short-term noise event associated with passing vehicles or airplanes flying over.
L_{50}	Sound level exceeded 50 percent of the time during a given period; the median sound level.
L_{90}	Sound level exceeded 90 percent of the time during a given period; sometimes used as an approximation for background noise.
Mineralization	The process by which a valuable mineral or minerals are introduced into a rock.
Mitigate, Mitigation	To cause to become less severe or harmful; actions to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce or eliminate, and compensate for impacts to environmental resources.
Monitor	To systematically and repeatedly watch, observe, or measure environmental conditions in order to track changes.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969; the national Policy charter for protecting the environment. NEPA establishes policy, sets goals, and provides means for carrying out the policy. Regulations from 40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500-1508 implement the act.
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA)	Act directing federal agencies to consider the effects of their programs and projects on properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If a proposed action might impact any archaeological, historical, or architectural resource, this act mandates consultation with the proper agencies.
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	A part of the Clean Water Act that requires point source dischargers to obtain permits. These permits are referred to as National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and are administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	A register maintained by the National Park Service (NPS) that lists districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture that meet criteria set forth in 36 Code of Federal Regulations 60.
Native American Graves Protection Act (NAGPRA)	A federal law, passed in 1990 that provides for the return of certain sacred and ceremonial objects held by museums and other repositories to the Native American peoples from which they were originally acquired.
Native Species	Plants that originated in the area in which they are found (i.e., they naturally occur in that area).
Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)	The text of the regulations implementing the laws passed by the Nevada legislature.
Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS)	The text of laws passed by the Nevada legislature.
Noise	Unwanted sound; one that interferes with one's hearing of something; a sound that lacks agreeable musical quality or is noticeably unpleasant.
Octave	The interval between two sounds having a frequency ratio of two. There are 8 octaves on the keyboard of a standard piano.
Octave Band	A segment of the frequency spectrum separated by an octave.
Octave Band Level	The integrated sound pressure level of only those sine-wave components in a specified octave band.
One-third Octave Band	A frequency band whose cutoff frequencies have a ratio of 2 to the one-third power, or approximately 1.26 (e.g., the cutoff frequencies of 891 Hz and 1,112 Hz define the 1,000 Hz third-octave band in common use).
Ore	A deposit of rock from which a valuable mineral or minerals can be economically extracted.
Overburden	Material that must be removed to allow access to an orebody, particularly in a surface mining operation.
Paleozoic	The span of time between approximately 570 and 245 million years ago.
Particulate(s)	Minute, separate particles, such as dust or other air pollutants.
Perennial Stream	A stream or reach of a stream that flows throughout the year.

Physiographic Province	Region in which all parts have similar geologic structure and climate and whose landforms differ significantly from those of other regions.
Pregnant Solution	Solution derived from the leaching process that contains dissolved metals.
Project Alternatives	Alternatives to the Proposed Action developed through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.
Properties of Cultural and Religious Importance (PCRI)	A “property of cultural or religious importance” that is a historic property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and associated with the cultural practices of an Indian tribe or other cultural or ethnic community.
Raptor	A bird of prey (e.g., eagle, hawk, falcon, and owl).
Recovery (Groundwater)	An increase in groundwater levels such that the groundwater elevations rise above initial baseline groundwater elevations. Refers to an increase in water levels following drawdown.
Reserves	Identified resources of mineral-bearing rock from which the mineral can be extracted profitably with existing technology and under present economic conditions.
Right-of-Way (ROW)	Strip of land or corridor over which a power line, access road, or maintenance road would pass.
Riparian	Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Riparian is normally used to refer to plants of all types that grow along streams, rivers, or at spring and seep sites.
Run-of-Mine Ore	Ore that is taken from a mine or pit directly to a mill for processing.
Runoff	That part of precipitation that appears in surface streams; precipitation that is not retained on the site where it falls and is not absorbed by the soil.
Sediment	Material suspended in or settling to the bottom of a liquid. Sediment input comes from natural sources, such as soil erosion and rock weathering, construction activities, or anthropogenic sources, such as forest or agricultural practices.
Sediment Load	The amount of sediment (sand, silt, and fine particles) carried by a stream or river.
Seismicity	The likelihood of an area being subject to earthquakes; the phenomenon of earth movements.

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Sensitive Receptors (Noise)	Activities or land uses that are more susceptible than others to noise interference.
Sensitive Viewpoint	Similar to a Key Observation Point, but of lesser sensitivity due to infrequency of use, small numbers of viewers, or similar mitigating circumstances.
Sound Power	The total sound energy radiated by a source per unit time. The unit of measurement is the watt or some fraction of a watt.
Sound Pressure	The instantaneous difference between the actual pressure produced by a sound wave and the average or barometric pressure at a given point in space.
Species	A group of individuals of common ancestry that closely resemble each other structurally and physiologically, and in nature interbreed producing fertile offspring.
Stratigraphy	Form, arrangement, geographic distribution, chronological succession, classification, and relationships of rock strata.
Subsidence	Sinking or downward settling of the earth's surface.
Tertiary	The span of time between 65 and 10 million years ago.
Threatened Species	Any species of plant or animal that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	The total amount of dissolved material, organic or inorganic, contained in a sample of water.
Total Suspended Solids	The amount of undissolved particles suspended in a sample of water.
Traditional Cultural Property	A site or resource that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community.
Transmissivity	The rate at which water of the prevailing kinematic viscosity is transmitted through a unit width of an aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient; it equals the hydraulic conductivity multiplied by the aquifer thickness.
Visual Resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetation patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for viewers.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes	A classification of landscapes according to the kinds of structures and changes that are acceptable to meet established visual goals (BLM).
Water Table	The level in the saturated zone at which the pressure is equal to the atmospheric pressure.
Waters of the United States	A jurisdictional term from Section 404 of the Clean Water Act referring to water bodies such as lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds. The use, degradation, or destruction of these waters could affect interstate or foreign commerce.
Wetlands	Areas that are inundated by surface or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support (and under normal circumstances do or would support) a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.
Wind Rose	A graphical representation of wind direction and wind speed frequencies.

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